

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FRISCO, TEXAS, ("CITY") APPROVING A NEGOTIATED RESOLUTION BETWEEN THE ATMOS CITIES STEERING COMMITTEE ("ACSC" OR "STEERING COMMITTEE") AND ATMOS ENERGY CORP., MID-TEX DIVISION ("ATMOS MID-TEX" OR "COMPANY") REGARDING THE COMPANY'S RATE REVIEW MECHANISM FILING IN ALL CITIES EXERCISING ORIGINAL JURISDICTION; DECLARING EXISTING RATES TO BE UNREASONABLE; REQUIRING THE COMPANY TO REIMBURSE CITIES' REASONABLE RATEMAKING EXPENSES; ADOPTING TARIFFS THAT REFLECT RATE ADJUSTMENTS CONSISTENT WITH THE NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT AND FINDING THE RATES TO BE SET BY THE ATTACHED TARIFFS TO BE JUST AND REASONABLE; APPROVING ATMOS' PROOF OF REVENUES; ADOPTING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; DETERMINING THAT THIS ORDINANCE WAS PASSED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT; DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND REQUIRING DELIVERY OF THIS ORDINANCE TO THE COMPANY AND THE STEERING COMMITTEE'S LEGAL COUNSEL.**

WHEREAS, the City of Frisco, Texas ("City") is a gas utility customer of Atmos Energy Corp., Mid-Tex Division ("Atmos Mid-Tex" or " Company"), and a regulatory authority with an interest in the rates and charges of Atmos Mid-Tex; and

WHEREAS, the City is a member of the Atmos Cities Steering Committee ("ACSC" or "Steering Committee"), a coalition of more than 150 similarly situated cities served by Atmos Mid-Tex that have joined together to facilitate the review and response to natural gas issues affecting rates charged in the Atmos Mid-Tex service area (such participating cities are referred to herein as "ACSC Cities"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the terms of the agreement settling the Company's 2007 Statement of Intent to increase rates, ACSC Cities and the Company worked collaboratively to develop the Rate Review Mechanism ("RRM") tariff that allows for an expedited rate review

process controlled in a three year experiment by ACSC Cities as a substitute to the current GRIP process instituted by the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the City took action in 2008 to approve a Settlement Agreement with Atmos Mid-Tex resolving the Company's 2007 rate case and authorizing the RRM Tariff; and

WHEREAS, the 2008 Settlement Agreement contemplates reimbursement of ACSC Cities' reasonable expenses associated with RRM applications; and

WHEREAS, on or about March 6, 2009, Atmos Mid-Tex filed with the City its second application pursuant to the RRM tariff to increase natural gas rates by approximately \$20.2 million, such increase to be effective in every municipality that has adopted the RRM tariff within its Mid-Tex Division; and

WHEREAS, ACSC Cities coordinated its review of Atmos' RRM filing and designated a Settlement Committee made up of ACSC representatives and assisted by ACSC attorneys and consultants to resolve issues identified by ACSC in the Company's RRM filing; and

WHEREAS, the Company has filed evidence that existing rates are unreasonable and should be changed; and

WHEREAS, independent analysis by ACSC's rate expert concluded that Atmos Mid-Tex is able to justify a slight rate increase over current rates; and

WHEREAS, the Steering Committee has advocated in other proceedings that Atmos Mid-Tex hedge natural gas futures in order to mitigate the volatility of natural gas prices, which are a flow through to customers; and

WHEREAS, the ACSC Executive Committee, as well as ACSC lawyers and consultants, recommend that ACSC members approve the attached rate tariffs ("Attachment A" to this Ordinance), which will increase the Company's revenue requirement by \$2.6 million; and

WHEREAS, the attached tariffs implementing new rates and Atmos' Proof of Revenues ("Attachment B" to this Ordinance) are consistent with the negotiated resolution reached by ACSC Cities and are just, reasonable, and in the public interest; and

WHEREAS, it is the intention of the parties that if the City determines any rates, revenues, terms and conditions, or benefits resulting from a Final Order or subsequent negotiated settlement approved in any proceeding addressing the issues raised in the Company's RRM filing would be more beneficial to the City than the terms of the attached tariff, then the more favorable rates, revenues, terms and conditions, or benefits shall additionally accrue to the City; and

WHEREAS, the negotiated Resolution of the Company's RRM filing, and the resulting rates are, as a whole, in the public interest.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FRISCO, TEXAS:**

SECTION 1. That the findings set forth in this Ordinance are hereby in all things approved.

SECTION 2. That the City Council finds that the existing rates for natural gas service provided by Atmos Mid-Tex are unreasonable and new tariffs and Atmos' Proof of Revenues, which are attached hereto and incorporated herein as Attachments A and B, are just and reasonable and are hereby adopted.

SECTION 3. That Atmos Mid-Tex shall reimburse the reasonable rate making expenses of the ACSC Cities in processing the Company's rate application.

SECTION 4. That to the extent any resolution or ordinance previously adopted by the Council is inconsistent with this Ordinance, it is hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. That the meeting at which this Ordinance was approved was in all things conducted in strict compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.

SECTION 6. That if any one or more sections or clauses of this Ordinance is adjudged to be unconstitutional or invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remaining provisions of this Ordinance and the remaining provisions of the Ordinance shall be interpreted as if the offending section or clause never existed.

SECTION 7. That if the City determines any rates, revenues, terms and conditions, or benefits resulting from a Final Order or subsequent negotiated settlement approved in any proceeding addressing the issues raised in the Company's RRM filing would be more beneficial to the City than the terms of the attached tariff, then the more favorable rates, revenues, terms and conditions, or benefits shall additionally accrue to the City.

SECTION 8. That the Company's Gas Cost Recovery tariff is revised to permit recovery of certain costs associated with hedging natural gas futures.

SECTION 9. That this Ordinance shall become effective from and after its passage with rates authorized by attached Tariffs, to be effective for bills rendered on or after August 1, 2009.

SECTION 10. That a copy of this Ordinance shall be sent to Atmos Mid-Tex, care of David Park, Vice President Rates and Regulatory Affairs, at Atmos Energy Corporation, 5420 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1800, Dallas, Texas 75240, and to Geoffrey Gay, General Counsel to ACSC, at Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C., P.O. Box 1725, Austin, Texas 78767-1725.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

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Maher Maso, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Jenny Page, City Secretary

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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Abernathy, Roeder, Boyd & Joplin P.C.  
Courtney A. Kuykendall, City Attorney